

# NCNA HEADS AND TALES

*The Official Publication of the*  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

*Mission Statement*  
To Promote and To Serve Northern California Numismatics

One-Hundred Twenty-Second (122nd) Issue

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"The Way I See It: If You Want The Rainbow, You Have To Put Up With The Rain."  
-----Dolly Parton

## 2017-2018 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Lloyd G. Chan-----	President
sede vacante-----	First Vice-President
Fred G. van den Haak-----	Second Vice-President
Donald L. Hill-----	Secretary
Michael S. Turrini-----	Treasurer

Deadline For The One Hundred Twenty-Third (123<sup>rd</sup>) Issue-----August 1st



## GUEST COMMENTARY, Kyle W. Lubke, Reprint from CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIST

As can be read, Your Editor has asked for a guest commentator. For this issue, it is Kyle W. Lubke, who, as can be read, has begun his professional career. Kyle and I 'cross-paths' often around San Francisco Bay Area coin shows and happenings. He can be seen with his 'old-fashioned' hand written 'want lists', checking off what his new purchases. A native of Montana, Kyle has settled into being a Californian, for now, and become a 'California coin celebrant', too!

Thoughts and reactions from NCNA HEADS AND TALES readers are welcomed. Contact at [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com). *Thanks!*

In June 2014, I wrote my first article for the CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIST of the California State Numismatic Association (CSNA). Michael S. Turrini, Past CSNA President, has again reached out to me to give an update of my opinion on the hobby now that I have finished college and have been going to Bay Area coin shows for a few years now. Since graduating, I have finished my CPA testing, began work at a 'big four accounting firm', and most important, continued my collection. I continue to enjoy spending time collecting various types of coins and learn about the history behind them.

The biggest change that I have noticed in the hobby in the last few years is that there are a lot more people buying and selling. I think this is attributable to a healthy economy and strong gains in the stock market. This has led people to look to diversify into coins and metals. Although the current market is strong, I still think there is a lack of growth. Current dealers are getting older and looking to sell off their collections and we are seeing more and more collections go to auction, while there are not enough new faces on the bourse floor.

My collection has grown to the point to where I have a few sets that are almost complete. I hope to begin selling and upgrading by setting up a table at a couple shows a year. It has been impressive the amount of support that I have gotten now that I am beginning the steps to become a dealer. The difficulty of not having enough capital to fund a collection has started to go away now that I have a real job. The new challenge is networking and finding new places to buy and sell coins. When I have tried to sell coins out of my pocket, I soon realize that dealers don't want to buy anything that is either common date or anything less than AU in a coin that isn't a key date. This is why I am in the process of becoming a part time dealer, to have a way to sell parts of my collection.

In conclusion, there are two key pieces to keeping the hobby live and well. *First*, we need find the next generations of collectors and find a way to get them involved. Every collector out there should make it a challenge for themselves to get out and share their coins with someone. Whether it is a child or grandchild, friend or coworker, or someone you just met. [*Amen! Kyle Is Absolutely Correct.* We current coin hobbyists need to promote our hobby.] *Second*, we need to get back to an era where coin collecting is a hobby everyone can enjoy and be involved, not just an exclusive club of dealers that trade with one another. At the end of the day, there will always be coin collectors, but we must do our part today to make sure the hobby is not lost in the future. *Good Luck and Happy Collecting!*



## THE MINTMASTER'S QUILL: An Editor's Prerogative

*"To Lose A Friend Is The Greatest Of All Losses."—Ancient Latin, Pubilius Syrus*

My Smartphone would ring, and on the other end, a jovial, kind, and loving voice would chime, 'How Are You Doing'. Always the same opening, and with those words, the James H. Laird, of Alamo, California, would commence another telephone conversation, that many times exchanged thoughts on our diverse interests and pursuits. Sadly, that jovial, kind, and loving voice has been stilled. James H. Laird, at age 64, in his prime, was called to 'the big coin club in the sky', as Michael M. 'Steamer' Stanley and I remark at the passing of another coin celebrant.

James H. Laird: Coin Hobbyist, Emerging Stamp Hobbyist, Connoisseur of Fine Wine and Scottish Whisky, Winning Blackjack/21 Player, Investor, 1970s Music Aficionado, Loving Husband, Retired Business Owner, Community Contributor, Civic Devotee, Mentor, and Philanthropist.

James was blessed. His affluence allowed him to assist and to aid a wide variety of causes and challenges. When the Alamo (California) Women's Club needed a new kitchen, he wrote the check. When biannually the devoted East Bay Hospice held its major fundraiser, he sponsored a table and welcomed his friends, freely, to join him. With Las Trampas, which helps the developmentally needy, he paid for his friends to attend and underwrote the cost. When Will C. Wood High (Vacaville, California) School brought the AP Junior United States History students to the Vallejo (California) Naval and Historical Museum, as 'Classroom Curators', he funded the costs, and earlier, he did the same for the Solano County Annual Drafting-Fest. In 1999, he underwrote the 'Treasure Hunt' at the American Numismatic Association (ANA) National Money Show in Sacramento, California.

This roster of his generosity would continue page after page. In addition, he served on governing boards of several Contra Costa (California) county non-profit 501c3 organizations. For our hobby, he served ten (10) years as Diablo (Concord/Walnut Creek, California) Numismatic Society President, as well as serving other organized numismatic organizations.

James leaves a legacy: a legacy of service and charity. He also leaves much more: the passion to serve and to give. He taught me that "money is a tool. Do good with it."

For me, James instilled that you give long before you receive, that your generosity does make a difference, making a dent in our world's needs, and that it is not who you are but what you do, with whatever you have or are given.

James was always speaking of his next big fundraiser or gala gathering, not because he would have a limo take him, along with a few selected friends, as I was privileged; but, the big fundraiser or gala was doing something positive toward the community or a beloved charity. Yes, he was there to enjoy the event; but, more importantly, he was there to support, give, advocate, and promote whatever. Simply said, James lived '*service over self*'.

In closing, my heart wants to say that 'he is still here, anticipating another telephone call'; but, the cruelty of my mind confirms his passing.

Concluding is difficult; so, let me end with this Maya Angelou saying: "*A Great Soul Serves Everyone All The Time. A Great Soul Never Dies. It Brings Us Together Again and Again.*"

Goodbye, My Friend. Thanks For Touching My Life. RIP, James.



### Coin Hobby Activist and Past NCNA First Vice-President

As it seems true lately, another telephone call reported that a well-known presence and coin hobby activist here in northern California had lost her yearlong battle with lung and heart problems. Dr. Jon-Maria Marish, retired United States Air Force (USAF) Colonel, passed away on April 15, 2018.

Most NUMISMATIC NEWS readers may not have known or heard of Dr. Marish; however, until health ended her coin hobby activism, she was a spark-plug in and for the Fairfield (California) Coin Club, Solano (California) Silver Round Club, plus the Vallejo (California) Numismatic Society, serving, along with other chores, as a President, Secretary, Show Coordinator, and Editor.

Dr. Marish was educated as a doctor, holding a PhD, and was a recognized authority in certain medical issues and drugs. She served both in Viet Nam and later during the Gulf War, earning decorations. In addition, she spoke Apache, raised horses, and was a miniature artist.

Her passion in numismatics was silver rounds and Indians on coins, respecting your Native American heritage.

When she was informed that her health decline was terminal, I visited and inquired what she would like as a legacy or remembrance. She replied forthrightly "something for young hobbyists and something to enhance our hobby, assisting all coin collectors."

Very big request; yet, thanks to the generosity of so many around northern California and even in Canada, her thought became the '*Jon-Maria Marish / O.L. Wallis Legacy Fund*', adding the late honored Californian coin activist, Othello Langworthy Wallis. Within months, contributions were readily donated, and this '*Fund*' now approaches \$7,000.00 total donated to date! A most fitting 'memorial' to her and the late 'Wally', as he was kindly addressed.

Dr. Marish was during her last yearlong agony most aware of this '*Fund*', and its concrete efforts to assist young collectors and advance our northern Californian numismatics. Complimentary magnifiers, coin wallets, and a foreign coin Treasure Box for youth plus PowerPoint projectors that can be borrowed and shared among organized numismatics, all these are evidence of the '*Fund*' is achieving her hope.

With her passing, the '*Fund*' is now titled '*Memorial*'. Donations are still welcomed. Remittances may be mailed to '*PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410*', payable to the '*Northern California Numismatic Association*' or simply '*NCNA*', which is a bono fide 501c3 non-profit.

Words are difficult at times as this. But, life and our hobby endures

Closing, this unidentified quote was learned and can give comfort: "*We All Die. The Goal Is Not To Live Forever. The Goal Is To Create Something That Will.*"

The '*Jon-Maria Marish / O. L. Wallis Memorial Fund*' achieves that hope. **RIP, Dr. Marish**



*Fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) Annual*  
**CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC SEMINAR**  
***‘James H. Laird Memorial Seminar’***

***Saturday, September 15, 2018***

**Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum**

**734 Marin, at Capital in downtown, Vallejo, California**

**Registration Opens: 8:30 AM**

**Theme: ‘Why Collect These?’**

**FREE Admission and Museum Open To All Attendees!**

**Door Prizes, Too!**

The theme is an outgrowth of the discussions generated during prior four Seminars. This year's theme, again, strives to enlighten and to enhance one's numismatic enjoyment.

NCNA is proud to announce these four confirmed presenters (not in speaking order):

**Scott E. Douglas** *from Acton, Ontario, Canada*

*Topic: ‘Hudson Bay Tokens and Numismatics’*

**Scott D. ‘SI’ Griffin**, *from Suisun City, California*

*Topic: ‘Toned Morgan Dollars’*

**Dr. David S. Goya**, *from San Mateo, California*

*Topic: ‘PPIE: Panama-Pacific International Exposition’*

**William E. Hyder**, *from Scotts Valley, California*

*Topic: ‘So-Called Dollars: Western States Exposition and Fairs’*

Updates would be posted on [www.solanocoinclub.com](http://www.solanocoinclub.com). Door Prizes and a simple on-site lunch service would be added to the all-day Seminar. In addition, the four presenters would be videoed. Videos would be available afterwards at a nominal charge.

**Herbert Miles** is the intended Moderator. It is hoped that **Scott E. English**, the American Philatelic Society's energized Executive Director, might also attend and contribute to the discussions. A closing panel discussion would conclude the Seminar's formal program, offering opportunity for questions and exchanges with Seminar attendees.



Your Association is proud that these devoted and recognized coin celebrants have accepted and are preparing insights as to alternatives and options for collecting, other than standard coin holders or albums or series. Their balance in scope of interest would enthrall any coin hobbyist.

With the untimely death of **James H. Laird** (1953—2018), our Association's First Vice-President, and being a Benefactor for the Seminar these three past years, the honorary and IN MEMORIAM title to this year's Seminar shall be the '**James H. Laird Memorial Seminar**'.

There is being planned a nice 'memorial table' at this year's Seminar. A small 'donor tree' seeking contributions, in remembrance and respect for the late Mr. Laird, would be present. Donations would be welcomed. A decision as to what concern, cause, or charity has yet to be decided.

**Sidebar:** Our Association was represented at James' Memorial Service on May 31, 2018, held in Alamo, California. Your Editor's Eulogy (published in this NCNA HEADS AND TALES as his 'Mintmaster's Quill') was reprinted in the San Jose (California) Coin Club's TODO DINERO, Liberty (Millbrae, California) Numismatic Society, and the Vallejo (California) Numismatic Society's BULLETIN, and shared at the Diablo (Concord/Walnut Creek, California) Numismatic Society.

### **2018 Seminar Patron**

Continuing the successful 'Patron' program and appeal from the prior Seminars, your Association seeks and solicits 'Patrons' at these two (2) levels:

<b>GOLD MINER</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>Name Listed In Program Letter Acknowledgment Certificate Name Posted At Seminar Engraved 'Token of Esteem'</b>
<b>PROSPECTOR</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>Name Listed In Program Letter Acknowledgement Certificate Name Posted At Seminar</b>

It is hoped this generous support would build the Association's Treasury and insure solid financial funding for future Seminars.

'Patrons' are now being accepted and should be mailed to 'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'. Include your name and responding contact. All 'Patrons' would be recognized at and during the 2018 Seminar and in its printed program.

**Note:** Those 'Patrons' at the 'Gold Miner' level would be generously matched, by a 'dear friend of NCNA', 'dollar for dollar': \$100.00 being doubled to \$200.00!



## Request

Over the years, it is apparent that most all our Individual Members have email addresses. The efficiency in reminders, and promotion for the Seminar, as an example, would be greatly increased. Please add with you dues response your email, if you wish. *Thanks!*

### **'Jon-Maria Marish/O.L. Wallis Memorial Fund'**

This special fund was created during 2017 in respect and in remembrance of the now deceased **Dr. Jon-Maria Marish and O.L. Wallis** (1920—2013). This Fund is dedicated to *'assisting and aiding numismatic education, including youth activities'*.

As of May 1, 2018, both NCNA and its esteemed President 'Doctor' Lloyd G. Chan are proud to report, thanks to generous donors, a total of **\$7,200.00** has been collected! This amount was kindly raised by donations of \$5.00 to \$500.00.

Already funds have been expended. At local northern California coin shows, magnifiers with lanyards and coin wallets were distributed, in gratis, to youthful attendees. In addition, thanks to a most generous 'in-kind' contribution, youth activities at coin shows include a 'foreign coin dig', 'Treasure Chest'.

Plus, PowerPoint projectors, two, and a portable screen have been purchased and are available on loan to Club Members, local northern California coin clubs members of our Association.

**Sidebar:** The aforementioned is another benefit to local coin clubs by joining and renewing NCNA membership.

In April 2018, Dr. Marish (1944—2018) passed away. At her request, there were no services, obituary, or memorial. She asked to be cremated, with her ashes shipped to Maine, where she enjoyed some of her youthful years. With her death, the Fund has dropped 'Legacy' and replaced it with 'Memorial'. Since January 2018, the following have donated:

#### **Scott D. English, *American Philatelic Society (APS) Executive Director***

**Michael S. Turrini**

**Fred G. van den Haak**

**'Vince' Clagg (*In-Kind*)**

**William A. Hickman**

**William V. Ormond, III**

**Dr. Charles Catlett**

**Randy Masker**

**Penelope Timm (*In-Kind*)**

**Manuel & Linda Cunha**

**Madelin Palmieri**

**Steve Krammer**

**Roy Kowalski**

**Livermore Coins**

**Jared Moe**

**Mikey Moe, *Age 12***

**Ron & Joyce Korock**

**Joel Anderson**

**Aidan Cushman-Kihnely, *Age 8***

**Donald L. Hill**

**'Ernie' Low**

**'Jim' Gallegus**

**Peter Galon**

**Michael M. Stanley**

**Herbert Miles**

**Mark Clarkson**

**Tom Spohn**

**Curt Covey**

**'Vince' Lacariere**

**Joel Del Campo**

**Jay Coffee**

**Manny Bernstein**

**Bradley Ware, *Age 12***

Note: There are a few 'Anonymous'. A few listed have been repeat/second donations.



NCNA certainly encourages additional contributions. Also, this Fund has evolved into *IN MEMORIAM/In Memory/In Remembrance Fund* to which donations could be placed in respect and for honor to a deceased fellow hobbyist. All Donations would be acknowledged (or may be anonymous). Mail donations directly to **'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410.'**

### **2018 Miller Medal**

Written nominations for the 2018 year are due by/before June 30, 2018. Requests for guidelines and criteria can be learned via your Editor. Written nominations mailed directly to Association President **Lloyd G. Chan** at **'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'** or emailed to **lchanfixx@aol.com**.

*'The Miller Medal'* continues as one of the most coveted and esteemed honors in northern California organized numismatics and possibly even nationwide.

### **Donnell Award**

This Award, specific to local Club Members (a coin club must be a Northern California Numismatic Association (NCNA) member) is available. Requests, in writing, are directly to **'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'** or at **EMPERORI@juno.com**. Only written requests, with specifics, are honored. The request must include the full proper name of the individual and the date to be bestowed. Retroactive awards are not allowed.

While presently there is no charge for *'Donnell Awards'*, these are limited to a two (2) maximum per calendar year per requesting Club Member, and a nominal donation of \$15.00 per award would be appreciated, covering the engraving and preparation as well as any mailing and handling. **Note:** The Awards Coordinator for our Association is Your Editor and Treasurer.

### **Coin Show Schedule**

The single most useful and popular of NCNA's services, the latest Coin Show Schedule has been included with this issue, and Club Members may request complimentary copies to distribute and to share among their members or at a local coin club's show. Contact Your Editor.

Depending on date request was received, at least fifty (50) copies would be provided, in gratis.

### **WESTPEX**

While attendance was not as hoped, several members and few visitors attended our April 27, 2018 Open Meeting during WESTPEX. Show 'n Tells, Door Prizes, and **Donald L. Hill's** *'Having Fun With Coins'* were the activities.

It is hoped that another Open Meeting would be in April 2019 again during WESTPEX.

**Sidebar:** Local northern California coin club shows seeking our Association's presence with a staffed 'combination youth hobby information and promotion table' are welcomed to contact Your Editor at **'PO Box 4104, Vallejo, California, 94590-0410'** or **EMPERORI@juno.com**.



## COIN SHOW SCHEDULE

These Coin Show listings are provided as a free service to the numismatic community by the Northern California Numismatic Association. Show listings are updated quarterly and are available without cost to member Coin Clubs. If you would like to have a Coin Club Show listed, please send all pertinent show information early to: N.C.N.A., Fred G. van den Haak, P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306-0484. If you would like a Commercial Show listed: you need to be a N.C.N.A. member for one free annual listing. Additional listings for Commercial shows are \$15 each. You may also e mail the information to: [fredvdh@gmail.com](mailto:fredvdh@gmail.com)

The joint website for the Fairfield Coin Club, Solano Silver Round Club, Vallejo Numismatic Society and Northern California Numismatic Association is: [www.solanocoinclub.com](http://www.solanocoinclub.com) and updated Show listings can be seen on this website!

- May 6, 2018 **VALLEJO**. Vallejo Numismatic Society **"CANCELLED"**
- July 28-29, 2018 **FREMONT**. Fremont Coin Club 45th Annual Show, Elk's Hall, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont, Ca. Information: (510) 792-1511; Bourse: Vince Lacariere, P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, Ca. 94538
- Sept. 9, 2018 **LIVERMORE**. Livermore Valley Coin Club 7th Annual Fall Coin Show, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, Livermore. Bourse: Jonathan Mitchell, P.O. Box 610, Livermore, Ca. 94551. Info: Phone: 925-954-5221
- Sept. 15, 2018 **VALLEJO**. The 5th Annual Northern California Numismatic Seminar, sponsored by The Northern California Numismatic Association. Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, 73 Marin Street at Capital, in Downtown Vallejo. Four speakers have been Scheduled: Scott E. Douglas, Acton, CANADA, Dr. David S. Goya, San Mateo, Ca., William D. Hyder and Scott D. Griffin, Fairfield, Ca. The "theme" for this year is "Why I collect these?" Registration for this all day event begins at 9AM with presentations beginning at 10AM; the afternoon program begins at 2PM. This is a "FREE" event and there will be free door prizes and all interested collectors are welcome to attend. Ample free parking is available. Updates: [www.solanocoinclub.com](http://www.solanocoinclub.com). Questions: [EMPERORI@juno.com](mailto:EMPERORI@juno.com) or 707-246-6327
- Sept. 21-23, 2018 **SANTA CLARA** CoinExpo Santa Clara: Coin, Currency, Stamp and Collectibles Show, Santa Clara Convention Center, 5001 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara. **Admission \$6, \$2 off with coupon.** Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 10am-4pm. Scott Griffin, P.O. Box 1876, Suisun, CA 94585 Ph: 415-601-8661 E Mail: [scottgriff@hotmail.com](mailto:scottgriff@hotmail.com)
- Oct. 20, 2018 **STOCKTON**. Delta Coin Club 53rd Annual Coin Show, Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton. Bourse: Ruben Smith III, P.O. Box 5787, Stockton, CA. 95205. Phone (209) 982-5961, E Mail: [rubensmith@hotmail.com](mailto:rubensmith@hotmail.com).
- Sept. 9, 2018 **LIVERMORE**. Livermore Valley Coin Club 7th Annual Fall Coin Show, Elks Lodge, 940 Larkspur, Livermore. Bourse: Jonathan Mitchell, P.O. Box 610, Livermore, Ca. 94551. Ph. 925-9545221



- Oct. 12-4, 2018 WALNUT CREEK. Diablo Numismatic Society. 22nd Annual Contra Costa Coin and Collectables Show, Elk's Lodge 1475 Creekside Dr., Walnut Creek. Diablo Numismatic Society, P.O. Box 177, Concord, Ca. 94522. Website: diablocoinclub.org Bourse: James Laird (925) 200-2276. Hours: Friday 1-6PM, Saturday 10AM-6PM and Sunday 10AM-5PM. ADMISSION \$3, dollar discount with flyer or post card advertising.
- Nov. 4, 2018 SAN JOSE. Peninsula Coin Club "CANCELLED"